

What is claimed is:

1. A method of associating contextual information with discrete components of data, the method comprising:

accessing at least one discrete component of data from at least one data source;

5 associating said at least one discrete component of data with at least one domain; and

adding domain specific contextual information to said at least one discrete component of data to provide enhanced data.

2. The method of claim 1, further include the step of:

10 assigning access rights to the enhanced data.

3. The method of claim 1, further include the step of:

assigning usage rules to the enhanced data.

15 4. The method of claim 1, further include step of:

encoding the enhanced data with a markup language.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the markup language comprises the Extensible Markup Language.

20 6. The method of claim 1, further including the steps of:

associating said at least one discrete component of data with a second domain; and
adding domain specific contextual information to said at least one discrete component of
data to provide second enhanced data.

- 5 7. The method of claim 1, further including the steps of:
receiving feedback data from a user of the enhanced data; and
modifying the enhanced data to include the feedback data.
- 10 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the adding step is performed in real-time.
9. A method of delivering enhanced data through at least one digital identity comprising the
steps of:
receiving a request through at least one digital identity for enhanced data from a
requestor;
15 using a digital identity to compare an identification of the requestor to access rights;
transmitting from the digital identity to an enhanced content source an approval to release
enhanced data; and
transmitting enhanced data from the enhanced content source to the requestor.
- 20 10. The method of claim 9, further including the step of:
comparing at the digital identity an intended use of the enhanced data to usage rules.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the digital identity is associated with an entity and is operated by a party other than the entity.

5 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the digital identity is associated with an entity and is operated by the entity.

10 13. The method of claim 9, wherein the digital identity is associated with an entity and the enhanced content source is operated by a party other than the entity.

14. The method of claim 9, further including the step of:
transmitting feedback rules from the enhanced content source to the requestor.

15 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the feedback rules comprise an incentive for the requestor to provide feedback to the enhanced content source.

16. A method of obtaining information about services that may be of interest to a user, the method comprising:

20 discovering at least one service offered by at least one entity connected to at least one computer network;

receiving content from said at least one entity that includes terms of said at least one service;

filtering the content to determine whether the content satisfies at least one predetermined rule

generating at least one decision parameter based on profile and preference information; and

determining whether the terms of said at least one service are acceptable based on at least one decision parameter.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the discovering step is performed dynamically.

18. The method of claim 16, further including the step of:
negotiating with the at least one entity.

19. The method of claim 16, further including the step of:
providing financial data to the at least one entity to complete a transaction.

20. The method of claim 16, further including the steps of:
monitoring a transaction involving the at least one service; and
modifying the profile and preference information as a result of the monitoring step.

21. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure comprising:
at least one discrete component of data from at least one data source;
first contextual information that enhances said at least one discrete component of data for
a first domain;
5 second contextual information that enhances said at least one discrete component of data
for a second domain; and
wherein the first domain is different from the second domain.

22. The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the data structure is encoded with a
10 markup language.

23. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein the markup language comprises the
Extensible Markup Language.

24. The computer readable medium of claim 21, further including a data field defining usage
15 rules.

25. The computer readable medium of claim 21, further including a data field defining
feedback rules.

26. The computer readable medium of claim 21, further including a data field defining access rights.

27. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing

5 the steps comprising:

accessing at least one discrete component of data from at least one data source;

associating said at least one discrete component of data with at least one domain; and

adding domain specific contextual information to said at least one discrete component of data to provide enhanced data.

28. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps comprising:

receiving a request through at least one digital identity for enhanced data from a requestor;

15 using a digital identity to compare an identification of the requestor to access rights;

transmitting from the digital identity to an enhanced content source an approval to release enhanced data; and

transmitting enhanced data from the enhanced content source to the requestor.

20 29. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps comprising:

discovering at least one service offered by at least one entity connected to at least one computer network;

receiving content from said at least one entity that includes terms of said at least one service;

5 filtering the content to determine whether the content satisfies at least one predetermined rule

generating at least one decision parameter based on profile and preference information;

and

10 determining whether the terms of said at least one service are acceptable based on at least one decision parameter.